

CLAIMS

1. A method of controlling access rights in a cellular mobile radio system, including transfer of roaming agreement information from a core network to a radio access network of said system, in which method said roaming agreement information is transferred independently of the management of radio access bearers at the interface between the core network and the radio access network.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein roaming agreement information transferred in this way is common to a public land mobile network (PLMN) identified by a subset of the international mobile subscriber identity (IMSI) number.
3. A method according to claim 2, wherein said subsystem includes a mobile country code field (MCC) and a mobile network code (MNC) field.
4. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein according to said roaming agreements access to a visited public land mobile network (VPLMN) is authorized for the whole PLMN or limited to certain areas of said VPLMN.
5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said areas of said VPLMN are areas in which the home public land mobile network (HPLMN) does not itself provide radio coverage.
6. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the routing agreement information transferred is indicated for each location area (LA).

7. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein said roaming agreement information is transferred in the event of modification of said information in the core network.

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8. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the core network is configured beforehand with said roaming agreement information.

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9. A method according to claim 8, wherein said configuration is effected by operation & maintenance (O&M) means.

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10. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein said roaming agreement information is stored in the core network in a database of the visitor location register (VLR) type.

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11. Radio access network equipment comprising means adapted to implement a method according to any one of claims 1 to 10.

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12. Radio access network equipment according to claim 11 taking the form of a radio network controller (RNC).

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13. Core network equipment comprising means adapted to implement a method according to any one of claims 1 to 10.

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14. Core network equipment according to claim 13, wherein, said roaming agreement information being stored in a visitor location register (VLR), said core network equipment takes the form of a mobile switching center (MSC) type equipment connected to a visitor location register (VLR).

15. Core network equipment according to claim 14,
wherein, said roaming agreement information being stored
in a visitor location register (VLR), said core network
equipment takes the form of a serving GPRS support node
5 (SGSN) type equipment integrating a visitor location
register (VLR).

16. A mobile radio system comprising means adapted to
implement a method according to any one of claims 1 to
10 10.